Amended Patent claims

1. (original) A method of continuously casting metal or metal alloys, especially copper or copper alloys in which the liquid metal flows from a heating vessel through a casting nozzle into the casting pool of a continuous casting apparatus which is provided with a traveling mold, characterized in that the casting nozzle is configured as an immersion tube which projects into the casting pool formed by the traveling mold sides.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1 characterized in that the immersion tube is matched in its inclination to the position of the melt level in the casting pool land is optionally controlled by feedback in response thereto.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ characterized in that the transport belts are slightly inclined with respect to the horizontal, preferably between 3° and 45° and/or have a spacing which is greater than 20 mm.

4. (currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~ 8claim 1, characterized in that the liquid molten metal is transferred from the furnace directly into the immersion tube, preferably under pressure.

5. (original) A casting device for the continuous horizontal casting of metal, comprised of a furnace (10), a device for transferring the liquid molten metal and a traveling mold, characterized in that the device for transferring the liquid molten metal is an immersion tube (13) which is movable along its longitudinal axis.

6. (original) The casting device according to claim 5 characterized in that the immersion tube (13), preferably along its outer surface, has spacing sensors with which the relative position of the immersion tube to the casting pool can be adjustably controlled.

7. (currently amended) The casting device according to claim 5 ~~or 6~~ characterized in that the immersion tube is fixed directly with the casting furnace (10, 11) and that the furnace is movable along a path inclined to the horizontal so that the immersion tube (13) is displaceable by the movement of the furnace.

8. (currently amended) The casting device according to ~~one of claims 5 to 7~~ claim 5 characterized in that the immersion tube (13) is arranged with an inclination relative to the longitudinal axis of the casting gap and is displaceable.